United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

Wisconsin Crop Progress & Condition

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Cooperating with Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

Vol. 19, No.17 *For the week ending July 21, 2019*
Issued July 22, 2019 *Media Contact: Greg Bussler*

Wisconsin had 4.2 **days suitable for fieldwork** for the week ending July 21, 2019, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Very hot and humid conditions boosted crop growth this week, while frequent thunderstorms interrupted fieldwork and hay baling. Severe straight line winds and a few tornadoes damaged crops, farm buildings, trees and powerlines in many areas. Some areas of the state received torrential rains, with some flooding, erosion damage and ponding reported. The most damaging weather reportedly occured from Thursday night through Saturday afternoon. Cooler, more stable air had moved into the state by Sunday but reporters noted that many fields were once again too wet to support machinery. Some reporters were concerned that lodged small grains may not stand back up before harvest time, while others noted that flattened crops were recovering already.

Topsoil moisture condition was rated 0 percent very short, 2 percent short, 71 percent adequate and 27 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** condition was rated 0 percent very short, 1 percent short, 72 percent adequate and 27 percent surplus.

Corn silking was reported at 10 percent complete, 12 days behind last year and 8 days behind the 5-year average. Corn condition was 60 percent good to excellent, unchanged from last week.

Ninety six percent of **soybeans** had emerged. Soybeans blooming was reported at 29 percent, 13 days behind last year and 11 days behind the average. One percent of soybeans were setting pods. Soybean condition was 62 percent good to excellent, down 2 percentage points from last week.

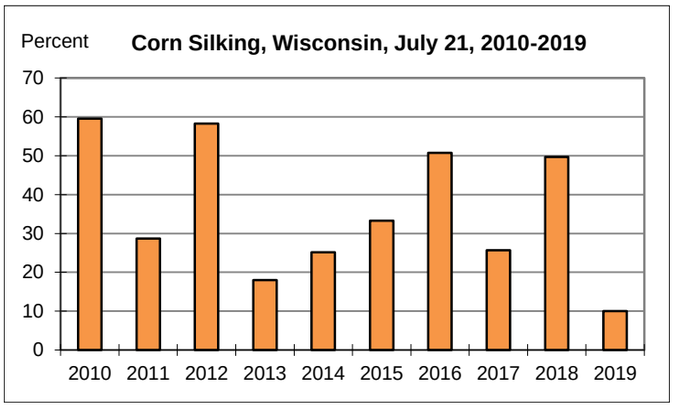
Winter wheat was 97 percent headed. Eighty two percent of winter wheat acres were coloring, 10 days behind both last year and the average. Winter wheat harvest has begun with 1 percent harvested for grain. Winter wheat condition was 59 percent good to excellent, up 3 percentage points from last week.

Eighty eight percent of **oats** had headed, 9 days behind last year and 11 days behind the average. Forty percent of oats had colored, 10 days behind the average. Oat condition was 70 percent good to excellent, unchanged from last week.

Potato condition was 74 percent good to excellent, down 9 percentage points from last week.

The second cutting of **alfalfa** hay was reported as 62 percent complete, 11 days later than last year and 9 days later than the average. **All hay** condition was reported 49 percent in good to excellent condition, 2 percentage points above last week.

Pasture condition was rated 62 percent in good to excellent condition, up 1 percentage point from last week.



Crop Condition as of July 21, 2019

	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Corn	4	10	26	41	19
Hay (all)	7	16	28	35	14
Oats	1	5	24	50	20
Pasture & range	3	8	27	43	19
Potatoes	0	3	23	54	20
Soybeans	1	8	29	44	18
Winter wheat	2	8	31	40	19

Crop Progress as of July 21, 2019

Item	Districts									State			
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay, second cutting	64	29	67	54	57	76	63	75	76	62	45	84	81
Corn silking	6	0	0	14	4	2	20	15	13	10	1	50	37
Oats headed	80	68	85	94	86	88	95	95	92	88	74	95	97
Oats coloring	36	17	10	37	17	39	56	81	68	40	20	65	67
Soybeans emerged	95	85	85	95	99	95	99	99	99	96	94	100	100
Soybeans blooming	44	14	5	32	11	27	30	40	19	29	7	64	60
Winter wheat headed	97	85	97	95	98	98	93	97	100	97	93	100	100
Winter wheat coloring	49	70	78	85	50	81	73	92	90	82	66	95	95

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Condition as of July 21, 2019

Item	Districts									State		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year
	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)
Days suitable	4.3	4.9	4.4	3.7	4.6	4.0	3.8	4.8	4.1	4.2	5.9	5.2
5.1	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Topsoil moisture												
Very short	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Short	3	1	0	2	0	5	2	3	1	2	8	20
Adequate	62	75	51	73	61	71	79	74	62	71	77	76
Surplus	34	24	49	25	39	23	19	23	37	27	15	3
Subsoil moisture												
Very short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Short	3	0	0	1	0	1	1	2	1	1	3	18
Adequate	70	71	43	75	68	76	83	70	61	72	78	77
Surplus	27	29	57	24	32	23	16	28	38	27	19	4

Selected Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

All comments are used in creating this report, but only a few are published below.

NW—POLK-J.P.: Tornado/straight line winds caused countywide storm damage on Friday night. Extensive, massive damage to buildings and crops. Many still without power 2 days later. Lots of unknown damage yet. Can't get to areas.

NW—RUSK/SAWYER-S.V.: Severe rain and wind storms Monday (07/15) and over weekend has flattened some of the corn, soybeans, oats and hay crops.

NC—CLARK/PRICE/TAYLOR-L.S.: Severe storms rolling though last week, especially 7/19-20 did lots of damage to fields, trees, and residences. With many places receiving over 5 inches of rain last week, everything is saturated.

NE—OCONTO-G.J.: 90 mph winds, some crop damage.

NE—SHAWANO-B.R.: Storms brought heavy rains to many of us late in the week with totals of 2-5 inches. Some of the taller corn fields got hit hard with strong winds causing them to lodge badly. While there was some hail, it did not appear to cause much damage. Many trees were down from the storms. Once again it is now very wet in the fields with standing water in many spots. It was a difficult week to make haylage due to the various rains.

WC—BUFFALO/PEPIN-M.L.: Parts of our county received 6 plus inches of rain between Thursday evening and Saturday morning, on top of the inch and a half from earlier in the week. Still waiting to hear from producers if flash flooding was a problem. However, the heat and humidity from between rainfall events made for some quick changes in corn and soybean conditions.

WC—TREMPEALEAU-L.N.: Hot, humid weather with daily rain doses are helping with plant growth but do not lend well to making dry hay. Some areas of the county received 4 inches of rain Thursday evening. Quality of hay is suffering as producers are unable to harvest it. Some fields of corn starting to tassel.

C—WAUPACA-L.N.: Crop damage due to excessive winds and tornadoes on Friday and Saturday. Excessive rain created standing water in some fields.

EC—KEWAUNEE-T.S.: Over the past weekend, anywhere from 1.5 to 4 inches of rain fell, making the soil quite moist, as it has been so many times this year. Strong winds caused some corn to be bent over and also caused portions of wheat and oat fields to lodge. It remains to be seen if the crops will straighten up before the harvest. A few producers were trying to harvest second crop hay. Some finished while others were literally caught in the rain. Some producers have yet to cut second crop, but the drier weather predicted for this coming week should allow that to take place. Unfortunately, the heavy rain has made the ground soft again, so harvesting the alfalfa will have to be done carefully to prevent the fields from getting ripped up. The warmth and high humidity over the past few weeks have really helped to push the crops on to maturity. There is still a ways to go, but the crops are noticeably different than they were just a week ago. Quite a bit of the corn will be tasseling soon and the soybeans should start blossoming soon as well. Weeds are starting to be seen in maturing oat and wheat fields, which could be a problem when grain harvest begins. And then there are the crops that were planted very late. That is mainly corn, but there is also some soybeans in this category. These crops are growing too, but in both cases are only about 3 to 4 inches high. It's unlikely that these crops will come close to maturing but they can be used for feed, which is the main reason they were planted (and perhaps for the upcoming Market Facilitation Program payments). A few producers have been direct seeding alfalfa and have also been planting sorghum sudan grass. And yes, there still are fields that have not been planted yet. These fields may remain idle for this year or they may be planted to winter wheat later. Or, these may be covered in manure. More than a few pits and other manure structures are getting full and will have to be emptied.

SW—VERNON-K.L.: 4 to 6 inches of rain Thursday night. Some livestock losses, property damage.

SC—DANE-F.P.: There are some corn fields which are shooting tassels, and a couple of fields that are showing silks. I saw a couple of wheat fields that have been combined.

SC—GREEN-J.T.: This county has some of the best looking corn in the southern part of the state, but none of it will produce the excellent yields we've seen the past couple years.

SE—WALWORTH-N.W.: The corn that was planted in April looks good. A lot of uneven growing conditions on later planted crops. Record prevent plant acres. Wheat is getting close to harvest. Weather looks favorable this coming week for getting it off.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on July 21, 2019

City	Temperature						Growing degree days (modified base 50) 1/		Precipitation				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal *	Mar. 1 to Jul. 20	Mar. 1 to Jul. 20 normal*	Last Week	Since Jun. 1	Jun. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire.....	85	64	92	57	75	+3	1284	1322	2.72	7.67	+0.89	26.04	+8.91
Green Bay	86	67	92	59	76	+6	1269	1210	2.42	7.95	+2.32	23.88	+8.67
La Crosse	91	70	97	67	80	+6	1612	1489	4.51	11.75	+5.00	28.66	+10.97
Madison.....	89	69	93	63	79	+7	1481	1450	3.42	10.72	+4.15	28.43	+10.44
Milwaukee.....	88	71	93	65	79	+7	1302	NA	2.81	7.56	+1.70	25.37	+6.58

1/ Formula used: GDD = (daily maximum (86°) + daily minimum (50°))/2-50°; where 86° is used if the maximum exceeds 86° and 50° is used if the minimum falls below 50°. *Normal based on 1971-2000 data. NA=not available. T=trace Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov.

For more weather data, please reference the following sites:
https://www.noaa.gov/ http://www.aos.wisc.edu/~sco/ https://www.cocorahs.org/ https://www.weather.gov/

This report has been made possible through the cooperative efforts of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection, and the National Weather Service.